11/15/72

Dear Howard,

Your letter including the xeroxes of Freedland's boook came today. I'll comment on those as I read because I'm more than usually pressed for time. Remarkable coincidence, this coming on the day Martin Dies' death is announced or reported. I'd be interested in the relevant Dies pages.

From my recollection, whichis dimmed and numbed by years, or what in some cases was not first-hand investigation (I had to whip the others into line, not easy, and obtain counsel, no easier), the first passages I read or incomplete and I think inaccurate.

P/202 If Bridges was active in this, I don't recall it. I think Taber was but a figurehead for Harold Barger, on his staff. My source:ADL friend who I'd helped. Now dead. The means of "force" was appropriations balckmail. I don't believe it was "administration inability" to cope but reluctance to or unwillingess to.

Summary powers to dismiss: not to State alone. McCarran Act.

Not one of 10 involved in "overseas information program" to best of my recollection. Not one I knew, anyway. (Two were anthropogists, proteges of Margaret Mead. After I persuaded them to join a united front in foghting that, as you know, was successful, she was able to place both in decent jobs.)

203:Much to kind to Marshall et al. I don't think there is any chance Congress would have supported the committee. There was no outcry when we won. The ani-Semitism was open.

23-4.No basis for "foreign power" jazz. Even J.Edgar Hoover said otherwise, to the late Bert Andrews. There was never any statement or even suggestion to us that there was any question of "internal security" or anything remotely like it. Or anything, for that matter.

How Arnold Fortas and Fowter got the case is quite a story-mine. The great "liberal" to whom the union had sent me, a personal friend, by the way, demanded an excessive fee of the unemployed and presumably permanently unemployable.

205. This is not unfair to Hoover. It is probably kind. But there is this one exceptions: when Bert Andrews bearded him on us he said there was nothing. And there was not to the best of my knowledge. Especially in the case of mistaken identity, of a man named Rennie for a redbaiting woman named Rennie! Her crime was being (again the coincidence in the news) anti-Peron.

I had a complete and extensive Dies file on this. I did my own investigation on that, and it was thorough and successful. I got his man convicted, you may remember, whicch was hard of the gut but quite a lesson. Lil was an indispensible ingredient, a real Mata Hari, at the pivotal point, when I was away. She was what has come to be called a "self starter". Never thing it from how she appears now, huh? She was great, man! I came back in response to her call and was able to do the necessary in time. Perhaps when you are here again we might talk about this and make a tape for the future.

Anyway, when the UnAmericans went after The Hollywood Ten, a man with whom I'd worked for the Senate appeared at my home one night with Edward ~~Dmy~~ Dmytryk, one of the Ten to ask for help and access to my files. They took what they wanted. I've never heard from either since, never got the files back (sound familiar?), and D turned out to be the fink in the Ten. I've often wondered if I could approach any of the Ten who are today sucdessful if they'd find some way of reciprocating in my present work. Their representative decimated the research for a book on Dies. If I got his man convicted, does it convince you that I had a book? Ever hear of it since?

When I read a couple of chapters of Anthony Quinn's book after the ABA convention in June I wrote his publisher to correct an error and wrote him b cause of his comment on this. His editor thanked, said my letter was forwarded, and silence since. Trumbo is the one who might do something, if any would. If any.

By the way, Dies has never dared print my testimony. I testified twice. The first hearing was set in type. I read proofs. Need I say more? And are you aware that I have been left alone since, at least overtly? Passed a WWII security check, too.

But what this account misses is the incredible: they actually passed a law to get me. It was the basis of the grand jury and is still on the books. They held up the appointment of the DC DA to get him to get me. The man who handled the case was later war-crimes chief lawyer, Tokyo, and he wound up with enough respect for me after I took his grand jury away from him to give me the grand jury minutes that I might in the future need. Ever hear ot that?